WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

5

10

15

20

25

1. A side lock apparatus for opening and closing members comprising:

a support member fixed to a opening and closing member so that the opening and closing member can be opened and closed;

left and right latches movably held on the opening and closing member;

- a spring unit; and
 - a link lever, wherein:

each of the left and right latches being urged by a pressure of a spring means toward a lock hole formed in the support member, a free end portion of each of the latches being moved back from the lock hole of the support member against the spring means by an operation of an operating handle;

the left and right latches are operatively connected together via the link lever supported rotatably via a shaft on the opening and closing member;

the operating handle being provided with an operating portion engageable with the relative latch; and

at least one latch being provided with not smaller than two contact surfaces engageable with the operating

portion of the operating handle.

2. A side lock apparatus for opening and closing members according to Claim 1, wherein

the opening and closing member is provided with a member for retaining one latch movably, the retainer member being detachable with respect to the opening and closing member and supporting the operating handle so that the operating handle can be turned or pressed.

10

15

20

25

5

3. A side lock apparatus for opening and closing members according to Claim 1, wherein

each of the latches is provided with a projection-carrying elastic member, the link lever being provided with recesses engageable with the projection, the thickness of the link lever being smaller than that of the latch.

4. A side lock apparatus for opening and closing members according to Claim 1, wherein

the left and right latches have shaft portions at their respective rear ends, and holes through which the shaft portions of opposite latches are inserted, each of the holes having a brake means, one shaft portion being provided with a spring means.

5. A side lock apparatus for opening and closing members according to Claim 2, wherein each latch has an elastic claw for tentatively fixing the retainer member.